



*Executive Director of CANMET Energy Technology Centre Martin Aube (left to right), Canadian Consul General Peter Lloyd, Canadian Senior Trade Commissioner Michael Virr, and Trade Commissioner Jane Shaw, tour the Critical Infrastructure Protection Facility on Apr. 1 and learn about systems testing and protection technology development from INL's Gary Finco, right, at the Information Operations Research Center in Idaho Falls.*

## **INL hosts Canadian Consul General, Trade Commissioners**

INL Associate Laboratory Director J.W. "Bill" Rogers, Jr. hosted four senior Canadian officials on April 1 in a series of exchanges designed to share more information about INL's missions and capabilities.

Canadian Consul General Peter Lloyd, Senior Trade Commissioner Michael Virr, Trade Commissioner Jane Shaw and Executive Director of the Canmet Energy Technology Centre Secretariat Martin Aube' toured INL laboratories and received a series of energy and technology briefings during a one-day visit.

Rogers opened the visit with a welcome and INL overview, outlining INL's key missions and capabilities. Rogers also delivered a summary concerning the news conference held with the Alberta Research Council in Edmonton on Mar. 28 during which he signed a memorandum of understanding on future research.

Rogers emphasized the importance of INL-Canadian relationships saying, "INL is working to significantly expand our collaborative research in energy and environmental stewardship with our Canadian neighbors. The visit by the Consul General and Canadian trade commissioners immediately follows the signing of a collaborative agreement with the Alberta Research Council and underscores the future we are planning with our partners in energy and technology research."

The opening session was followed by discussions concerning energy systems, with a nuclear science and technology update by Tim Leahy, and an overview of INL's energy systems and technologies research and current successes from Steven Aumeier. The group also walked through INL's new high performance computing center.

During a working lunch, John Grossenbacher, INL Laboratory Director, emphasized that "It's important to have you here because many of the energy and security issues that both of our countries are dealing with don't have national or provincial boundaries."

The Canadian Consul General Peter Lloyd responded saying, "Our deep thanks on what has been a fascinating visit. We had an eye-opener of a morning. The areas we saw resonate so strongly. It shows what our countries can do together if we work on joint interests."

He also added, "Our office is available to build and facilitate links that will help bring INL together with Canadian interests."

Canada is one of the largest trading partners for the U.S., especially since Alberta provides 11% of U.S. crude oil imports and 60% of natural gas imports. To meet future energy demands, Canada and the U.S. will need to collaborate on research to develop unconventional fossil energy resources like oil shale in an environmentally progressive manner. The energy security for both nations may soon rely upon integrating energy systems that involve nuclear, fossil, and renewable sources being used together in innovative ways.

The group then toured the Nuclear Hydrogen Laboratory to view an ongoing experiment, followed by presentations on integrating nuclear technology with fossil energy recovery, and energy and environment issues, including carbon dioxide and water management. Biofuels and renewable energy research also were presented during the tour through the Bonneville County Technology Center.

Transportation fuels were a major interest during the visit, which prompted a visit to the INL Battery and Advanced Vehicle Laboratory to learn about the hybrid and plug-in electric vehicle testing and research program.

The group also visited the Energy Critical Infrastructure Protection Facility to learn about the National Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition



*Executive Director of CANMET Energy Technology Centre Martin Aube (left to right), Trade Commissioner Jane Shaw, Canadian Consul General Peter Lloyd, and Canadian Senior Trade Commissioner Michael Virr visit the Nuclear Hydrogen Laboratory and learn from INL researcher Carl Stoots, right, about the simultaneous production of hydrogen and synthetic gas. INL researchers James O'Brien, foreground left, and Bob Cherry, background left, joined the group for the tour.*

Test Bed at INL. This was followed by other issue discussions that focused on training the energy work force for the future, and INL efforts at technology transfer and commercialization.

In the afternoon, Martin Aube' spoke to INL researchers and managers, delivering an overview of the CANMET Technology Centre. He noted that the Centre's three-lab complex and 450 researchers and staff look at methods for integrating energy systems for Canada. "We use knowledge to support or design policy," he said. The Centre focuses primarily on oil, gas, transportation fuels and systems, building and community infrastructure, industry and electrical generation.

The remainder of the day included visits to IRC laboratories on research concerning industrial energy efficiency, advanced separations, catalysis, and industrial extremophiles. The day-long tour ended with discussions on coal, coal to liquids processes, and both liquefied natural and compressed natural gas as they pertain to transportation and clean vehicle operations.

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